

King Hall 1331

Chapter 1331: Online Uproar! Famous Mountains Change Hands, Shocking the Entire Web!

Since people are unable to go out, the online discussion about various demon beasts establishing sects and accepting disciples indiscriminately remains highly popular.

A year ago, people never imagined that one day, those animals could become supreme masters, and their survival would depend on the animals' whims.

The public engaged in heated discussions, initially resisting the idea, and later considering whether to choose a nearby Spirit Mountain to seek refuge if future Elixirs are obtained from the state, or take some risks and choose a more distant sect that they prefer.

When the topic arose, people felt like they were playing those martial arts online games, just entering a novice village, ready to select a sect to join.

Thus, they began to excitedly discuss.

"I heard the Mountain Master of Mount Hua is a golden eagle, over two meters tall with a wingspan of over five meters, extremely cool. The Mount Hua Sect it established must be awesome. If there are more Elixirs distributed later, I'll definitely go to Mount Hua Sect to learn martial arts!"

"Such a large golden eagle must be fierce, afraid of losing my life for nothing. It's better to go to Mount Emei. The white crane that established the Shushan Sword Sect seems more gentle, and it's said to have found the long-lost Sword Control Technique in Mount Emei. How stylish is that..."

"Indeed, the white crane of Mount Emei posted that it didn't mention any tuition fees at all. I believe it truly teaches without discrimination, unlike the other demon beasts, which I feel have ulterior motives..."

"Yes, those demon beasts that initially claimed to teach without discrimination but required tuition fees for disciples, I think they're highly suspicious. Better not go, afraid that despite giving Elixirs, you'll still lose your life for nothing."

"I remember among humans, there should be many masters who have conquered several Famous Mountains. Why don't they step forward to help us through this crisis?"

People began to wonder why until now, scarcely any human cultivators stood up and announced opening their Spirit Mountains to allow nearby residents to take refuge?

"I remember reading a post before, someone said the Elixirs distributed to us by the state, although helpful in resisting cold and providing energy to survive this harsh winter, are actually very ordinary low-level Elixirs and not significant to masters. Human masters should be more aware of this, thus unwilling to waste effort..."

"If what was said upstairs is true, then it further confirms those demon beasts charging us Elixirs as tuition have malicious intents!"

"Exactly, those who are not of our kind certainly have differing hearts! Everyone must be cautious, even if deciding to go to Famous Mountains for apprenticeship, it's better to choose a farther but safer place."

"Haha, compared to the human masters who have remained silent, I feel they are cold-blooded animals, not as caring as these demon beasts..."

"True, despite being compatriots, until now, apart from national assistance, I haven't seen those humans who conquered Famous Mountains extend a hand to us, it's truly disheartening!"

Just as people were discussing and starting to feel that human help to their kind was inferior to that of demon beasts, silently blaming, posts began to appear successively online, nearly igniting the entire internet.

"The one posting those few threads, either is a fool or their home isn't near the Spirit Mountains conquered by human cultivators, near my home, several communities are near Mount Wuyi, they've already moved into Mount Wuyi!"

"Exactly, my home is near Mount Song, the monks residing on Mount Song have just descended to help escort us to Mount Song. Our community hasn't even received national Elixirs for resisting the cold yet,

initially worried about freezing to death mid-way, but walking next to the monks wasn't cold at all and smoothly ascended Mount Song."

"Us too..."

A large number of posts appeared revealing, all with photos and truths, thousands of them were escorted to Spirit Mountains by the nearby Mountain Masters, now living comfortably.

"Wow, who dares say human cultivators are too malicious? Not extending a hand to compatriots? Are cold-blooded animals?!"

"Compared to the demon beasts letting us venture far risking freezing mid-way to their Spirit Mountains for refuge, our human cultivators are the ones truly doing the work, rescuing the suffering!"

"Love it, not wasting words online, letting nonsense spew, the masters directly demonstrate with action who is truly worthy of our trust!"

"My home is near Mount Wangwu, not sure if the immortals residing on the mountain will descend to rescue us, I envy those already rescued..."

A group of people seeing these posts are genuinely envious and regretful, stomping feet, wishing their homes were near these Famous Mountains. Otherwise they wouldn't be freezing at home now.

At this moment, another batch of posts emerged, revealing they were rescued too, but escorted into Spirit Mountains, however, it wasn't by humans, but demon beasts!

"What's this about those not of our kind necessarily having differing hearts?! I don't see it that way..."

Next, a flood of photos revealed how a large community was escorted by demon beasts into nearby Spirit Mountains.

"Among demon beasts, there are good demons, I cannot speak for others, but at least around us, demon beasts didn't demand Elixirs as tuition or refuge fees, they just took us up the mountain for refuge."

Seeing these posts appear, those who originally madly spray-spoke about human cultivators being heartless and cold-blooded named continued to speak.

"See? See? Look, demon beasts are truly our human friends, they are helping us too!"

"Yes, did you see? In these later posts, I saw people drinking meat broth, photos show many demon beast corpses nearby. What kind of sentiment is this? They killed their kind to save us!"

"The Buddha who cuts flesh to feed the eagle, surrenders himself to the tiger, indeed..."

With these remarks appearing, those originally prejudiced against demon beasts were shocked and touched.

But more people were puzzled, wondering why demon beasts would do this?

Or perhaps, the demon beast rescuing them up Spirit Mountain was a Dog Demon, letting them eat demon beast meat was rabbit meat, therefore not meat of the same kind, wouldn't affect mutual sentiment?

But people still felt something off because those photos showed demon beasts escorting them up the mountain, it felt strange, as if they were not entirely willing.

Someone then posted some questions.

"I just carefully checked those photos, confirmed these demon beasts rescuing everyone up the mountain weren't the Snow Wolf King or Black Tiger King demanding Elixirs as tuition earlier! Some people, please refrain from excessive praise!"

"Moreover, I studied few photos showing the front of some demon beasts, from their eyes, it's clear they weren't very willing. I guess, they might have been forced by human masters, forced to come out and rescue us..."

This thread's author analyzed various points with logic and evidence, but many replies still protested strongly.

"The author is too bitter, why can't demon beasts voluntarily rescue us? Were they forced out?"

"Indeed, among humans, where are such masters? If there were, how could it happen that most Famous Mountains were occupied by demon beasts rather than directly wiping out demon beasts in one breath?"

Then, more posts appeared, completely igniting the enthusiasm of netizens and bringing more confidence.

These threads contained few words, just photos, showing various notorious demon beasts getting killed on Famous Mountains or kneeling in submission.

Then a sentence followed.

"The recent analysis was correct, those rescuing demon beasts were indeed forced by us from the Dragon King Hall to rescue people. Please rest assured, the nation will not abandon everyone. Everyone will be rescued! All Famous Mountains will be conquered, serving as our refuges!"

Chapter 1332: Restoring the Dragon King Hall's Name! The Dragon King Returns!

"Holy crap, am I seeing things, or are these photos actually not photoshopped?!"

"Aren't these demon beasts the ones that just spoke online, inviting people to seek refuge at their famous mountains, as long as they pay elixirs as tuition?"

"Awesome! That's not just tough talk, they went straight to settle it."

"Has the country stepped in now? I knew those demon beasts had ulterior motives, trying to get us to kill each other or freeze to death along the way. What a bloodless strategy, yet so many people believed them!"

After these posts appeared, their confident and domineering statements, despite being just a simple sentence, made the whole internet boil over. Everyone cheered, and people no longer doubted their confidence in surviving the Ice Age.

Those accounts that were previously praising the demon beasts and speaking good things about them basically went silent after this.

No one knows if the ones behind those accounts were human or demon.

If they were demon beasts, they must be panicking now, no longer responding isn't surprising at all.

"Hey, did you notice that the original poster mentioned Dragon King Hall, not Great Xia Dragon Sparrow?"

"Yeah, I noticed it too. What organization is Dragon King Hall? Or is it a department of Great Xia Dragon Sparrow?"

At this moment, many started to notice the self-reference in those posts wasn't Great Xia Dragon Sparrow, but Dragon King Hall...

After all, it was just a short sentence, not a lengthy essay, and netizens easily noticed these differences upon close reading.

Thus, some people started to speculate if Dragon King Hall is a department under the "Dragon" division, with another "Sparrow" division called "Vermilion Bird Platform"?

Everyone found this quite reasonable.

However, accounts that were analyzing the photos of demon beasts saving people earlier posted some educational content showing that the demon beasts had no other choice.

"Dragon King Hall is not a department of Great Xia Dragon Sparrow. Actually, you could say it the other way around. Strictly speaking, Great Xia Dragon Sparrow isn't a subordinate division of Dragon King Hall, but it was supported by them..."

"Dragon King Hall appeared as early as a thousand years ago. According to various traceable materials, it was founded during the Tang Dynasty to protect the people and stabilize the Nine Provinces, and this mission remains unchanged. It could be said to be the true guardian god of Huaxia!"

"In the dark web, Dragon King Hall has long been referred to as one of the world's top ten organizations along with other major organizations, which is far superior to Great Xia Dragon Sparrow."

"A year ago, due to the revival of spiritual energy, the world underwent great changes. Previously docile animals began mutating into ferocious beasts and demon beasts. To help people survive in such an era, the new Dragon King approached the nation and provided various cultivation methods, which led to the establishment of an official organization, Great Xia Dragon Sparrow!"

"Only then did Great Xia Dragon Sparrow promote the nationwide martial cultivation program, enabling everyone to cultivate and strengthen their bodies from a young age. Without this policy, we would have lost many more lives!"

"Moreover, in the past year of spiritual energy revival, you should remember several extremely horrific town massacre incidents, right? The ones who finally dealt with those demon beasts weren't Great Xia Dragon Sparrow people, but Dragon King Hall..."

"Actually, think about it; humans can't evolve as quickly as demon beasts just relying on spiritual energy. Only through cultivating and using cultivation techniques can it be done. Having only established Great Xia Dragon Sparrow a year ago, of course, they need to grow slowly; how could they possibly continuously exterminate all those troublesome ferocious beasts? Only Dragon King Hall, developed over a millennium, possesses the power to do so..."

"Also, the elixirs distributed to save lives earlier were actually provided by Dragon King Hall..."

This account's educational content wasn't spoken carelessly; he attached various materials and substantial evidence that proved his statements were truthful.

People were astounded upon seeing this evidence.

They finally realized that the person behind this account was genuinely a big shot!

And they never expected that the truth was so far removed from their beliefs—that Dragon King Hall was not part of the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow's dragon department. Instead, Great Xia Dragon Sparrow was established with Dragon King Hall's help.

And those ultimate experts they once believed subdued the rampaging demon beasts weren't from Great Xia Dragon Sparrow but from Dragon King Hall. The credit was falsely taken by Great Xia Dragon Sparrow.

Dragon King Hall remained this low-key.

Until now, when people once again faced an Ice Age and the threat of extinction, Dragon King Hall finally emerged from the shadows, aiming to thoroughly conquer all Huaxia's famous mountains to serve as their refuge!

This truly was an instance of hiding one's time and making an earth-shattering debut!

However, while some cheered joyfully over their salvation, equally excited people curiously asked why Dragon King Hall kept silent about its merits in the past, letting them misunderstand that Great Xia Dragon Sparrow did these great deeds.

The original poster directly replied that Dragon King Hall did not care about trivial matters like these, nor did it care for the people's gratitude...

Someone else asked why the original poster revealed these truths now, potentially preventing Dragon King Hall from keeping a low profile?

The original poster replied that since Dragon King Hall had already identified themselves in those posts, it made sense for someone like him, with insider knowledge, to educate people and clear Dragon King Hall's name.

Further, someone asked why Dragon King Hall, despite having the power to conquer all the nation's famous mountains, did nothing over the past year and only eliminated the most ferocious beasts?

"Is it because Dragon King Hall wishes for harmony between humans and these ferocious beasts, or does it believe we are too weak, leaving these beasts and demon beasts to motivate us—giving us a goal to strive for?"

"Perhaps they considered both? After all, some demon beasts are indeed good-hearted."

As those questions arose, more people, amidst their excitement, started focusing on these issues, discussing them among themselves.

The original poster replied simply, "It isn't as complicated as you think. A year ago, Dragon King Hall encountered some turmoil. After imparting cultivation methods to Great Xia Dragon Sparrow to implement the national martial cultivation policy, the Dragon King went to a secret realm space. Without the Dragon King, Dragon King Hall was leaderless, and they could barely hold on against those demon beasts and other adversary organizations!"

"Then why can Dragon King Hall now conquer all the famous mountains?"

Without the original poster replying, someone straightaway said, "Isn't that simple, because the Dragon King has returned!"

Other netizens responded:

"The Dragon King returns; I am the Dragon King; I shall crush all enemies of this world!"

"The Dragon King returns, fulfilling the year-long promise—demons, ghosts, and spirits, get the hell out of here!"

"..."

A crowd started playing with the Dragon King joke, showing that their mood now was far from the anxiety of previously waiting to die at home.

And shortly afterward.

A large number of posts appeared, originating from those accounts that declared they would conquer the national famous mountains not long ago. These posts also featured people of few words but strong actions, attaching photos and brief sentences.

"All Spirit Mountains in Min Province have been conquered. Photos below..."

"All Spirit Mountains in Guangdong Province have been conquered. Photos below..."

First, the famous mountains of the southern provinces and regions were conquered with proof and evidence. Then, these accounts continued to post; the famous mountains of the northern provinces and regions were also conquered...

"We have conquered the famous mountains across all 34 provinces, cities, and autonomous regions!"

"Please do not risk going out; we will soon send people to transport you to the mountains for refuge!"

Chapter 1333 Why Say "Again" When Trouble Strikes? Searching for Yu Shenfeng!

One week later.

The majority of people in Huaxia have already been evacuated to various famous mountains across the country, taken there by the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow, Dragon King Hall, Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere, Way of Nature, and surviving Mountain Masters from each famous mountain to seek refuge nearby.

The folded spaces behind the famous mountains have not yet completely merged with the mountains, expanding the mountains themselves; the spaces inside are much larger than the mountains, capable of accommodating far more people.

However, the population of Huaxia is simply too large, resulting in a small number of people being unable to enter the mountains for refuge. Therefore, they can only reside in high-rise buildings, relying on taking Essence Qi Pills to resist the cold.

They failed to enter the mountains for refuge, but there are some advantages, such as more comfortable living conditions at home and better food.

The only thing that makes them uneasy...

is that they went from originally taking one Essence Qi Pill to effectively resist the cold for three days, to now taking just one to resist the cold for only one day.

It's not that they've developed resistance to the Essence Qi Pills, but rather that the weather is getting colder and colder.

The impact of the new wave of spiritual energy revival brought about by snowstorms has continued for a week without stopping and has instead become more severe.

By now, the whole world has basically lost water, electricity, and internet!

Ordinary five to six-story small houses were buried under snow long ago, making them uninhabitable.

Currently, the only habitable structures are those above the twenty-fifth floor, because even twenty-story buildings are almost buried by snow and are very dangerous.

For safety considerations, those unable to seek refuge in the mountains are generally residing around thirty floors!

This group of people went from initially feeling quite comfortable, thinking it might not be a bad thing not entering the mountains, to now gradually becoming somewhat panicked.

Because if the blizzard continues, they won't just have nowhere to live; they may soon need to take several Essence Qi Pills a day to resist the cold effectively, in which case they will definitely be doomed sooner or later.

However, because of the loss of power and internet, they have nowhere to vent their grievances.

They can only lament why they didn't buy houses near the mountains at that time; otherwise, they wouldn't be suffering so much now.

Qinling.

After one week of arrangements and adjustments.

Now, Mu Jinyu no longer needs to endlessly refine Essence Qi Pills day and night. The pills produced by more than seven thousand Alchemy Furnaces are sufficient for the people still living in the cities to use for resisting the cold.

The daily task for Mu Jinyu is now to produce Fasting Pills.

Yes, Fasting Pills, elixirs that, when consumed, allow people to go several days without eating.

After all, with over a billion people crammed into the mountains, how will they solve the problem of eating? Can a single mountain provide meals for millions or even tens of millions every day?

This is simply impossible!

Delivering food cooked outside to them?

That food would freeze into blocks of ice on the way, and even if it's defrosted upon arrival, it would lack any flavor.

As such, it's best to provide them with some Fasting Pills to prevent starvation without needing to eat unpleasant food.

During these special times, people are receiving special treatment, which they can understand.

This is also why before, those who were not selected to enter the mountains felt their modern urban life was quite comfortable.

Refining Fasting Pills, however, is not as cumbersome as refining Essence Qi Pills, as Fasting Pills strictly speaking are not true elixirs, just ordinary pills.

Like the Beauty Pill, although it has some miraculous effects, the effects aren't very significant, so refining them is quite easy.

Mu Jinyu personally refines Fasting Pills; unlike the one pill per second for Essence Qi Pills, he can refine hundreds to thousands in a second...

In other words, if he's in good form, he can produce nine thousand Fasting Pills in one second!

Initially, Mu Jinyu personally made Fasting Pills, but later, after Xia Ruochen arranged the materials for him, he established a Fasting Pill production line similar to the assembly line equipment for making Beauty Pills in the past.

So, he found himself with more free time, no longer busy every day.

During this week, San Liu, Qiu Bai, and Chen Xiuying, who followed Yu Shenfeng abroad to battle organizations like Fallen Splendor and Paradise Lost, all gradually returned.

Still, no news of Yu Shenfeng one week on.

"Could Senior Yu have encountered trouble again?"

In the small room, everyone sat around the stove, Mu Hongchen frowned in confusion.

Su Zijin asked, "Why do you say 'again'?"

Hearing this, everyone couldn't help but smile.

Yu Shenfeng indeed has had a string of unfortunate events, starting from the time he was afflicted with Cold Poison, to later being attacked by many enemies, being heavily wounded, and going into seclusion, and now missing since the spiritual energy revival.

There are barely any in Dragon King Hall who are as unlucky as him.

After the smile, everyone's faces turned serious again, their worry for Yu Shenfeng deepened, fearing he really might be in trouble.

Even though Yu Shenfeng joined Dragon King Hall midway, over the past year, after several crises while defending the hall, everyone grew attached to him.

Of course, they didn't want this King of Assassins to end up in trouble like that.

"No, I have to go out and find Master..."

San Liu initially didn't worry much when he just returned a few days ago, as Qiu Bai and he also hadn't been back then, but now he's beginning to feel uneasy.

"I have to go out and find Master too..."

"I am going too!"

Qiu Bai and Chen Xiuying were the first disciples to apprentice under Yu Shenfeng, and they naturally had deeper feelings compared to San Liu, Nameless, and Zhu Yeqing, who only became his disciples last year.

A few days ago, they wanted to search for Yu Shenfeng, but as everyone discussed, they felt he would surely return soon, so they suppressed their anxiety, not immediately rushing out to search.

Now that San Liu also wants to find their master, they obviously can't just sit idle.

Mu Jinyu nodded, saying, "I also think we should look for Senior Yu. Do you have any personal items of Senior Yu?"

"Yes." Qiu Bai stopped just as he was ready to head out, paused hearing Mu Jinyu, and searched through his Storage Bag, taking out a Magic Treasure, saying, "This is the Magic Treasure Master gave me half a year ago before going into seclusion. Will it work?"

Mu Jinyu felt the Magic Treasure and shook his head, "No, it doesn't have any of Senior Yu's aura left on it. Never mind, I'll return to Yinlong Mountain and look for his clothes in his room."

"Take us with you," Chen Xiuying quickly said.

"Okay." Mu Jinyu responded, then looked at Gu Xiyan and Su Zijin, saying, "I will go directly with them to find Senior Yu, you continue to help out here."

"Alright." Su Zijin nodded in agreement.

With a wave of his hand, Mu Jinyu brought San Liu, Nameless, and Qiu Bai to instantly teleport to Yinlong Mountain.

Upon returning to Yinlong Mountain, Mu Jinyu went straight to Yu Shenfeng's room and found the clothes he recently changed. Using the personal aura on these clothes, he performed the Immortal's Guide spell to begin the search for Yu Shenfeng.

"Buzz!"

Mu Jinyu opened his eyes, saying, "I couldn't pinpoint the exact location, but it's likely in the south region. Let's go; we'll scatter and search together."

The Immortal's Guide spell naturally could detect the general direction but cannot accurately know the exact location, so after discovering Yu Shenfeng was in the southern region, Mu Jinyu instructed everyone to spread out to search for Yu Shenfeng!

Chapter 1334 Found Yu Shenfeng! The Fuzzy Shadow in His Memory!

Although they couldn't find Yu Shenfeng, upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, San Liu and the others all breathed a collective sigh of relief.

After all, from Mu Jinyu's words, it seemed Yu Shenfeng was still alive; otherwise, the "Immortal's Guide" spell could not have been successfully cast.

Afterwards, they scattered and searched towards the south.

Of course, they weren't searching in the southern regions of Huaxia, but rather towards the Southern Sea. They guessed that Yu Shenfeng had gone missing near this area.

Possibly stranded on some deserted island.

Half a day later.

Mu Jinyu was flying over the frozen ocean when he suddenly felt a stirring in his heart. His gaze then turned towards a small deserted island not far away.

On that snow-covered island, Mu Jinyu sensed Yu Shenfeng's presence in one of the caves.

"Found it?"

Mu Jinyu's eyes flickered. He then stepped forward, and his figure instantly vanished from mid-air.

In a flash, Mu Jinyu reappeared outside the cave.

He didn't rashly enter the cave because, in addition to Yu Shenfeng's presence, there was another very strange aura inside that he could sense.

This aura was very concealed, capable of evading the probing of Divine Sense. If not for Mu Jinyu's acute Divine Sense, he wouldn't have noticed its subtle vibrations.

Yet even so, his Divine Sense was unable to see the true nature of that aura, so Mu Jinyu came to the cave entrance to observe its appearance with his naked eyes.

Standing outside the cave entrance, Mu Jinyu peered inside. The cave was very dark, without a single ray of light shining in. However, with Mu Jinyu's Eye Power, he could still clearly see the interior.

He saw Yu Shenfeng pinned to the mountain wall in a "T" position, nailed by spikes, eyes closed and unconscious.

And the area around his heart was stained red with blood. Upon closer inspection, he could see many holes in the fabric over his chest, pierced by blades.

One could imagine the kind of torment Yu Shenfeng had endured these past days since he went missing.

Yet with the Life Force of a Fanxu Realm expert, it wasn't enough to have caused his death here.

However, the damage to his heart was still a very serious injury. Even though Yu Shenfeng hadn't died yet, if he couldn't be treated in time, he would eventually die.

Mu Jinyu urgently activated Mysterious Origin, channeling Life Source Energy towards Yu Shenfeng's heart, healing the injuries there.

Meanwhile, as he treated Yu Shenfeng, Mu Jinyu observed his surroundings in the cave but found no peculiar items nor the source of the bizarre aura that had unsettled him.

"Is it inside the cave?"

Mu Jinyu's gaze turned to the depths of the cave. The profound darkness refused to yield to sight or Divine Sense, shrouded in a mist-like veil.

This confirmed for Mu Jinyu that the source of the aura was likely hidden deeper in the cave.

It could also be the attacker who severely wounded Yu Shenfeng.

Nonetheless, Mu Jinyu was not in a hurry to seek out the truth but continued intensifying his application of Life Source Energy to heal Yu Shenfeng.

Five minutes later.

"Ugh..."

Yu Shenfeng, who had been unconscious, slightly pressed his pale lips together, his furrowed brows relaxing a bit. His long, dense eyelashes quivered, then his eyelids opened, revealing his eyes.

Yu Shenfeng opened his eyes, his gaze still confused, as if not fully awake.

But shortly after, as if recalling something, he let out a roar, his pupils contracting involuntarily, panic flickering across them...

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu grew increasingly curious and puzzled.

Given Yu Shenfeng's strength at the Peak Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm, there should be no one currently on Earth capable of reducing him to such a state.

Thinking of his own presence, though, he couldn't rule out the possibility of a Unity Realm power once escaping from the Kunlun Ruins.

Moreover, with Kunlun Ruins as a Secret Realm, who could guarantee there weren't other regions on Earth connected to other Secret Realms?

Perhaps a master from some unknown Secret Realm had ventured out...

As these thoughts swirled in Mu Jinyu's mind.

Yu Shenfeng seemed to have shaken off his fear, beads of cold sweat emerging on his forehead. Panting heavily, Mu Jinyu asked, "Senior Yu, how are you feeling now?"

"Clang!"

"Clang!"

As he spoke, Mu Jinyu waved his hand and pulled out the nails pinning Yu Shenfeng's hands, feet, arms, and thighs.

The nails dropped to the ground with a crisp sound, three inches long, rust-covered and stained with Yu Shenfeng's blood.

Freed from the bindings, Yu Shenfeng almost collapsed from the mountain wall as he struggled to stand. Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, he lifted his head to look at him, eyes showing relief amid exhaustion, and said, "Dragon Master, you've come to rescue me..."

Mu Jinyu nodded slightly and asked, "What happened? How did you end up like this?"

Upon hearing this, fear once again flashed in Yu Shenfeng's eyes, but there was a growing bewilderment.

He furrowed his brow in thought but eventually shook his head slightly, speaking in a low voice:

"I... I can't remember. I remember... I remember tracking the whereabouts of the Curse World Master to a deserted island. There was a lake on the island, exuding a strong stench of blood. I used the Black Emperor Water Emperor Technique to sense the changes in the lake and learned the Curse World Master had just left. I then followed the changes in the water Qi to pursue him, and then..."

Yu Shenfeng paused, furrowing his brow in thought for a long time, finally shaking his head helplessly: "In the end, I don't know how I ended up here..."

Hearing this, Mu Jinyu's brow also furrowed, and he asked, "Do you know who nailed you here? Do you know the attacker?"

Yu Shenfeng shook his head.

Mu Jinyu was silent for a moment then spoke, "Senior Yu, would you allow me to look into your memory?"

Yu Shenfeng looked up at Mu Jinyu, his expression showing a hint of hesitation.

He was aware of the Soul Searching Technique and the slight impact it had on the person receiving it, which made him somewhat resistant.

But recalling how he was unexpectedly dragged here and subjected to torment, a fierce and resentful look flashed in Yu Shenfeng's eyes as he said, "Alright, I'll trouble you, Dragon Master."

With Yu Shenfeng's permission, Mu Jinyu offered reassurance, saying, "Rest assured, Senior Yu, the Soul Searching Technique I perform now is masterful and won't affect you significantly."

Hearing this, Yu Shenfeng was taken aback, his previously aggrieved and repressed mood turning somewhat amused.

What does he mean by saying that even the Soul Searching Technique is masterful now? Just how many minds has this guy searched? That's too brutal!

"Apologies."

As Yu Shenfeng's mind wandered, Mu Jinyu apologized and began to search Yu Shenfeng's soul.

Mu Jinyu was indeed masterful in his use of the Soul Searching Technique, reaching a peak level.

During this soul search, he didn't start from Yu Shenfeng's childhood memories but directly from his departure from Yinlong Mountain to settle with Fallen Splendor on that fateful day.

In the memory, Yu Shenfeng left Yinlong Mountain, then parted ways with San Liu, Qiu Bai, and Chen Xiuying, each heading to target a major organization. Along the way, Yu Shenfeng destroyed several sub-temples of Fallen Splendor, finally uncovering clues about the Curse World Master. Unfortunately, he was still too late; the Curse World Master had already gone.

Afterwards, Yu Shenfeng used the abilities of the Black Emperor Water Emperor Technique to discern the Curse World Master's departure direction and pursued him.

A few days later, Yu Shenfeng was lucky to catch a glimpse of the Curse World Master's silhouette.

But at the critical moment, a vague shadow appeared and attacked Yu Shenfeng...

From that point, Yu Shenfeng's memory became fragmented, filled only with vague recollections of the painful torment he suffered during this period.

Chapter 1335 Deep Within the Cave! The Culprit Who Bound Yu Shenfeng!

"Who is that vague black shadow?"

"Was the Curse World Master taken away by him?"

"Is he the ancestor of the Fallen Splendor?"

Mu Jinyu stopped the Soul Search on Yu Shenfeng, causing no harm to his Soul, then showed a contemplative expression, pondering the identity of that vague black shadow.

He speculated it might be the old vampire from the Fallen Splendor, but then felt that was unlikely. If it were indeed an old vampire, they wouldn't need to be so secretive, hiding their presence from others.

Unable to figure it out, Mu Jinyu shook his head slightly, dismissing various thoughts but committed that vague black shadow to memory. If given a chance, he would certainly take action against it!

After all, being able to attack Yu Shenfeng and knock him unconscious in a second suggested the opponent's strength was likely in the Late Stage of the Fanxu Realm!

That was worth being cautious about.

"Chirp, chirp..."

At that moment, Mu Jinyu heard a strange sound coming from the depths of the cave.

"Hmm?!"

Mu Jinyu squinted his eyes and then turned to look into the deep darkness at the cave's depths.

Just now, he sensed a strange disturbance emanating from the depths of the cave and guessed that the tormentor of Yu Shenfeng might be hidden inside.

Out of concern for Yu Shenfeng's safety, Mu Jinyu had not immediately investigated what was in the cave depths, focusing instead on healing Yu Shenfeng.

After completing the Soul Search on Yu Shenfeng and knowing the real culprit, he didn't think the person would still be here and somewhat ignored the strange disturbance from the cave's depths.

Unexpectedly, it now autonomously emitted strange sounds, catching his attention again.

"Don't come over..."

At that moment, Yu Shenfeng, beside Mu Jinyu, showed a suddenly changed expression of terror upon hearing the odd sound and involuntarily let out a low growl.

"Hmm?!"

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu turned his head to look at Yu Shenfeng, his gaze flickering with speculation.

Could it be that the one tormenting Yu Shenfeng all this time wasn't actually that vague black shadow?

That vague figure attacked Yu Shenfeng and left him in this potentially dangerous place, taking the Curse World Master away.

Subsequently, the unconscious Yu Shenfeng was found by the mysterious creature here and tormented by it...

Thus, even though he had performed a Soul Search on Yu Shenfeng, he couldn't find out who later cruelly tortured him. Yet, upon hearing this sound, Yu Shenfeng instinctively responded with terror?

Because the torment over this period had already burrowed deep into Yu Shenfeng's psyche, even unknowingly in a coma, he remembered this sound?

Mu Jinyu felt his guess was close to the truth, right?

Then, Mu Jinyu said to Yu Shenfeng, "Senior Yu, rest assured, you are no longer bound, unable to move, and there's no need to fear whatever's inside, not with me here."

Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, the previously terrified expression of Yu Shenfeng began to calm down as if assured of safety.

"Dragon Master, I..."

Yu Shenfeng then showed a look of shame, feeling that his earlier display had been quite disgraceful.

Mu Jinyu smiled slightly without saying much and said, "Let's go, let's take a look."

The best way to conquer fear is to face it.

Yu Shenfeng had been tormented here for various reasons, leaving psychological scars. If not helped to remove them, they would remain in Yu Shenfeng's heart, becoming a weakness, which is not a good thing.

"Okay." Yu Shenfeng understood Mu Jinyu's intentions, gratefully glanced at him, and then nodded.

Mu Jinyu nodded back to him and then stepped towards the dark depths of the cave.

He didn't directly control the Heaven and Earth Laws to shift with Yu Shenfeng to the cave's depths.

After all, he hadn't figured out what creatures were inside, whether there was any danger, plus Yu Shenfeng was beside him. He didn't want to directly send him back into fear after he had just relaxed his tense mind.

The two walked in one after the other, and as they went deeper, Mu Jinyu realized that his senses were correct.

There was indeed a very strange Qi fluctuation here, which he couldn't immediately discern.

As though shrouded in a mist, obscuring the true appearance from view, even the Divine Sense couldn't perceive it due to an ancient and mysterious Formation set up in the cave.

With Mu Jinyu's Formation knowledge, breaking it was challenging because it was too special, more unique than the Forbidden formations on Mount Tai.

"It seems to resemble a Formation set up by a demon beast? Is that why it's so special?"

Mu Jinyu pondered silently to himself.

At this moment, in the dim passage, although his vision was limited, Mu Jinyu sensed danger.

"Swoosh!"

Mu Jinyu flipped his hand, and the Dragon Spear was in his grip, stabbing straight ahead!

A sound of piercing flesh rang out, followed by a wailing cry.

Mu Jinyu focused his eyes to see the spear edge impaling a very unusual-looking fish?

"This is..."

Mu Jinyu took a few glances at the fish and then recognized its kind...

Rugens!

This is a marine herbivorous mammal, often mistaken by fishermen for mermaids due to its appearance and need to periodically surface to breathe.

So, that strange cry just now was made by it?

"Hmm?"

At this point, Mu Jinyu noticed that the Rugen's lower half was still a fish tail, yet its upper half had grown arms resembling human hands, really approaching the image of a mermaid.

Except for the head.

Still a fish head.

And its upper half skin was still black-gray fish skin, not the fair skin, appearing far from the beautiful mermaids imagined by humans.

But what surprised Mu Jinyu wasn't that the Rugen grew hands, but rather that it held a sharp knife in its palm.

"Is this the culprit who stabbed Senior Yu in the heart?"

Mu Jinyu looked at Yu Shenfeng with a peculiar expression and asked softly.

Yu Shenfeng also saw the Rugen clearly, noticed its palm holding a sharp knife, and upon careful consideration, realized that the Qi emanating from this Rugen indeed seemed like the one who tormented and stabbed his heart during this period?

Yu Shenfeng became slightly dumbfounded, not expecting that the thing causing him so much pain was this creature?

He felt embarrassed, having shown terror when hearing the sound from outside the cave, wasn't this laughable?

However, something was a bit off...

This Rugen was very weak, from the Qi emanating, it was only a small Ferocious Beast around the First Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, not something that could continuously torment him mercilessly, preventing escape?

"Swoosh!"

Mu Jinyu flicked his wrist, splitting the Rugen skewered on the spear edge, then said to Yu Shenfeng, "Let's go, it's almost to the exit, let's go see."

"Hmm." Yu Shenfeng responded, and followed Mu Jinyu as they strode towards the cave's depths.

A minute later, a glimmer of light appeared ahead, nearing the exit.

Mu Jinyu waved his hand, teleporting them to the exit's position.

The scenery suddenly opened up before them.

A green lake about the size of two football fields appeared!

At the same time, Mu Jinyu and Yu Shenfeng were somewhat stunned.

They saw that in the lake at the cave's depths, where Rugens believed to be endangered were frolicking in the thousands...

As Mu Jinyu and Yu Shenfeng reached the exit, all the Rugens simultaneously turned their heads, cold eyes staring at them!

Chapter 1336 Mermaid with a Fish Head! Sacrificial Offering to the Sea God!

"So many fish..."

Faced with the cold gaze of over a thousand dugongs, Mu Jinyu didn't feel any pressure, he just said with some surprise.

Yu Shenfeng, however, didn't share Mu Jinyu's ease. When he faced the gaze of the dugongs, he instantly felt overwhelming pressure.

Because these dugongs, none of them were weak; all possessed cultivation at the Divinity Transformation Realm.

Among them, at least three hundred were at the Late Divine Transformation Realm Stage.

And there were also more than a dozen dugongs at the Early Fanxu Realm!

It's known that ferocious beasts with Fanxu Realm strength can dominate a famous mountain, being recognized as demon kings.

Who would have thought that here, there were more than a dozen dugongs with Fanxu Realm strength!

Most importantly, there was one dugong whose appearance was different from ordinary dugongs. It looked infinitely close to the mermaids imagined by humans.

Its lower body boasted a beautiful fish tail, adorned with sparkling multicolored scales, shimmering with vibrant colors as it swayed through the water.

Its upper body was not covered in dark gray fish skin, but had skin as white as jade, resembling human skin, and its slender arms were similar to those of a human woman.

Its chest was adorned with two exquisite shells...

However, shattering all the beautiful fantasies was its head, which was still a fish head...

This sight was truly eye-searing!

But Yu Shenfeng wasn't someone to judge by appearance alone. Although he felt slightly uncomfortable with this unusual mermaid, pressure was rising in his heart.

Because the strength of this demon beast that almost fully transformed into a mermaid was as strong as the sixth layer of the Fanxu Realm!

Now, Yu Shenfeng knew why he was in trouble.

With so many dugongs at the Fanxu Realm and this mermaid at the mid-stage of the Fuxuan Realm, he truly had no chance of resistance nor waking up!

"Hey, this one... wow, looks like a mermaid, but her head is really an eyesore."

Mu Jinyu also noticed the mermaid at the sixth layer of the Fanxu Realm, and initially admired that mermaids truly existed in the world, but once his gaze traveled upwards to the mermaid's fish head, he couldn't help but sigh with disappointment.

At this moment, he heard the dugongs talking among themselves.

In a group of over a thousand dugongs, there were more than three hundred at the Late Divine Transformation Realm Stage, and over a dozen at the Early Fanxu Realm. In possession of such strength, they naturally had intelligence not inferior to humans. It wasn't surprising they were conversing with each other.

However, unlike those living in the Huaxia Region, these dugongs didn't speak Huaxia directly after gaining wisdom and transforming their throat bones to talk.

He couldn't understand a word the dugongs were saying.

Could it be the language of the Dugong Tribe?

Mu Jinyu directly released his divine sense, feeling their spiritual fluctuations and quickly understood what they were saying.

It was roughly this:

"The sacrificial offering has escaped! What should we do?"

"The offering brought another new offering, but I feel he looks really terrifying..."

"..."

Hearing this, Mu Jinyu did not get angry but started pondering.

Sacrificial offering?

Could it be that Yu Shenfeng was bound at the cave entrance with injuries on his chest because these dugongs saw him as a sacrificial offering, using his blood for some ritual?

And now, they're treating me as an offering too — interesting...

"Ha!"

As Mu Jinyu pondered about how these dugongs gathered here and why this lake hadn't frozen over, the mermaid, probably the Rugens Queen, let out a tender shout. She then leapt out of Emerald Lake, wielding a deep blue trident, charging at Mu Jinyu!

"Hmm?"

Mu Jinyu woke from his reverie, and upon seeing the mermaid's graceful posture and her agile fish tail, a hint of admiration surfaced in his eyes.

But seeing the fish head, his gaze momentarily froze, feeling extremely uncomfortable.

Shaking his head slightly, Mu Jinyu sighed, "Guests coming, why resort to violence, I've yet to hold you accountable."

Saying this, he pointed his finger towards the mermaid's charging trident.

"Clang!"

"Bang!!"

Holding the trident, the mermaid couldn't withstand Mu Jinyu's Dragon-Elephant Force, her delicate form shook, her tiger mouth cracked open with blood gushing out, her whole person being forced back.

With a flick of her tail, the mermaid did several backflips in mid-air to disperse the counter-shock force, and gazed at Mu Jinyu with fish eyes filled with uncertainty.

Evidently, she hadn't expected Mu Jinyu to be so powerful.

Mu Jinyu, watching the mermaid after several backflips, thought, if this mermaid had a normal human head, even if the face were not as pretty as Gu Xiyan's and the others, combined with her blue hair reaching waist and hips, her moves should have been quite delightful.

What a pity, having a fish tail as a mermaid would suffice, but adding a fish head is truly eye-searing!

"If you were a perfect mermaid, I might have the interest to exchange a few more moves with you, but as it is, alas... I really lack the interest to spar with you, don't blame me for judging by appearance, for I am indeed so crude."

With the mermaid hesitating, unwilling to easily attack Mu Jinyu again, Mu Jinyu sighed softly, then waved his hand with a pinch.

Immediately, like a paper doll being blown by a strong wind, the mermaid was thrown backward, then was attracted by a strong gravity, flying uncontrollably towards Mu Jinyu.

Finally, she arrived in front of Mu Jinyu, with her neck grasped by him.

"King!"

"Bold!"

"Bold offering, let go of our king!"

As the mermaid was grasped by Mu Jinyu, the dugongs floating on the water shouted in surprise.

Yu Shenfeng couldn't understand, but Mu Jinyu did understand their meaning!

"Hmm?!"

Mu Jinyu raised a brow, his gaze sweeping across these restless little fish.

Instantly, the dugong group, feeling the pressure of the Unity Realm Stage, were scared into trembling, not daring to make a move.

While those dugongs only possessing Early Stage strength at Divine Transformation Realm Stage were scared into falling into the water, not daring to surface again.

Initially struggling when grabbed by Mu Jinyu, the mermaid felt this pressure and immediately gave up resisting.

The mermaid thought in despair, never expected that human offering has such strong companions, they're doomed today...

Seeing the dugongs finally behaving, Mu Jinyu chuckled lightly, then looked at the mermaid in his hand, first gazing into her fish eyes feeling rather uncomfortable, then shifted his gaze down to the shells, and asked:

"Why did you harm my friend? Why call him a sacrificial offering?"

Although Mu Jinyu understood the dugongs' speech, he couldn't speak their language, thus he communicated directly through spiritual waves.

The mermaid comprehended Mu Jinyu's message, raised her fish eyes with a curious glance at Mu Jinyu, hesitated for a moment, and explained:

"He carries the purest ocean breath, being the most suitable offering to the Sea God. It's also why we survived this huge disaster..."

Chapter 1337 The Whole Story! Sea God Palace!

"Pure ocean essence?"

Mu Jinyu heard the mermaid's answer and couldn't help but look at Yu Shenfeng beside him.

But he couldn't see any ocean essence on him at all?

Then, Mu Jinyu narrowed his eyes, as if he thought of something.

He turned to the mermaid and began to practice the "Black Emperor Water Emperor Technique," but did not use the True Black Water Essence within his body to suppress or corrode the opponent, asking, "Is the ocean essence you mentioned this True Yuan?"

The mermaid's expression was somewhat fearful, instinctively sensing the essence emanating from Mu Jinyu was similar to Yu Shenfeng's, but extremely dangerous. She might die if she's not careful.

Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, she hurriedly replied, "Yes, but... his is more pure and safe..."

Mu Jinyu heard her, his face showing an expression of having figured it out.

He had wondered what ocean essence was on Yu Shenfeng?

And if there was something that could interest these Rugens, it was probably only the Water Origin refined by Yu Shenfeng through the "Black Emperor Water Emperor Technique."

This Origin Source can transform into three different nature changes: water, mist, ice.

Usually, Yu Shenfeng uses the Ice Attribute to fight enemies, which has a stronger killing power.

But when Yu Shenfeng falls unconscious, the True Yuan within him automatically converts to the Water Origin, making it easy to be stolen.

If Mu Jinyu's Source of Life has an instinctive longing for flowers, trees, and can easily mature them, allowing them to continuously increase in medicinal age and strength, then the Water Origin refined through the "Black Emperor Water Emperor Technique" is also very attractive to the demon beasts living in the sea, helping them quickly enhance their power.

By now, Mu Jinyu almost figured out the whole process of the incident.

Yu Shenfeng was attacked by that blurred shadow while tracking the Curse World Master, fell unconscious, and was then dumped on this desolate island. It's unclear whether the mysterious person knew this group of Rugens existed on the island. If they knew, perhaps it was deliberate to make Yu Shenfeng their sacrificial offering.

If not, then Yu Shenfeng was too unlucky. That mysterious person probably did not want to offend the Dragon King Hall either, just wanted to safely place him on this island so that he would lose track after waking up, unable to continue chasing the Curse World Master. However, coincidentally, this island harbored this group of Rugens who then discovered the purest Water Origin within Yu Shenfeng...

Thus, Yu Shenfeng's tragedy happened!

And the continuous theft of Yu Shenfeng's Water Origin and even Essence Blood greatly advanced this group of Rugens, revealing several Demon Kings of the Fanxu Realm...

No, something is wrong here...

Mu Jinyu shook his head, realizing Yu Shenfeng's cultivation was only at the Peak Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm, how could a portion of his Water Origin and Essence Blood be stolen to cultivate numerous Rugens at the Fanxu Realm and Divinity Transformation Realm?

At this moment, Mu Jinyu recalled the last few sentences of the mermaid's response to his question, a sacrificial offering to the Sea God? Letting them survive in this calamity?

"Who is the Sea God you're talking about?"

Mu Jinyu frowned slightly and asked the mermaid.

The mermaid heard Mu Jinyu's words, sensing no respect or fear for the Sea God in his tone. Instead, she appeared slightly angry.

"Hmph!"

The mermaid turned her head and snorted, enduring Mu Jinyu's death threat, unwilling to speak further.

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu furrowed his brows tighter, saying, "You stubborn little thing, since that's the case, I won't be polite to you."

With that said.

Mu Jinyu immediately performed the Soul Searching Technique on the mermaid.

The mermaid felt her Sea of Consciousness being attacked, and she was extremely terrified, wanting to answer honestly, but the ensuing events were completely beyond her control.

Mu Jinyu quickly completed the soul search on the mermaid, seeing her memories from the past few days.

Initially, her subordinates accidentally discovered Yu Shenfeng on the island, then noticed the Water Origin within him and joyfully began extracting the Water Origin from Yu Shenfeng...

Then, when the Ice Age came, they were initially very frightened, then realized something and began performing some rituals, eventually extracting Essence Blood from Yu Shenfeng and offering it to the Sea God who protected them.

Thereby, a group of Rugens who originally didn't have strong powers were granted the cultivation of Divinity Transformation Realm by the Sea God, allowing them to survive this disaster.

What caught Mu Jinyu's attention the most was the mermaid's memory showing Yu Shenfeng was already nailed to a rock face, unconscious, when the Rugens found him...

Does that mean the mysterious person did intentionally scheme against Yu Shenfeng?

Mu Jinyu didn't think much about it afterwards, since there was no trace of the mysterious person at the moment, thinking too much was pointless.

He began to recall from the mermaid's memory the palace hidden under their Emerald Lake, along with the Sea God sculpture within it.

They performed the Sea God rituals here with Yu Shenfeng's Essence Blood and were granted considerable cultivation advancement.

"Interesting, I want to see what kind of deity this Sea God is, to have such abilities."

Mu Jinyu had roughly figured out the ins and outs of the matter and found the mermaid, gripped by her neck, no longer of any use to him, turned to Yu Shenfeng and asked, "Senior Yu, do you want to personally take revenge?"

"Yes."

Yu Shenfeng responded coldly.

He was not a good person, nor any easy prey, for he was the King of Assassins!

This time, trapped on the island and tormented by this group of Sea Demons, extracted of True Yuan and had his heart pierced for Essence Blood, if Mu Jinyu hadn't arrived timely, he feared he couldn't hold out much longer before dying.

Therefore, after the event turned around, how could he be benevolent enough to spare these enemies?

"Good."

Mu Jinyu nodded and tossed the mermaid to Yu Shenfeng.

This mermaid, while interesting, and indeed resembling a mermaid except for her human head, appeared ravishingly beautiful and exceptionally elegant, but given such an irreconcilable grudge against Yu Shenfeng, Mu Jinyu couldn't feel any pity for her, nor allow Yu Shenfeng to spare her.

"Crack!"

As the mermaid was thrown over, Yu Shenfeng crushed her throat...

Next, Yu Shenfeng quickly dealt with the mermaid and began a massacre of the Rugens below.

Mu Jinyu was uninterested in how Yu Shenfeng took revenge, his curiosity gravitated toward the Sea God Sacrificial Platform, and he plunged into the Emerald Lake below.

"Bang!"

Mu Jinyu plunged into the water, even without using the Water Repelling Bead, the surrounding lake water did not wet his clothes.

He swiftly navigated underwater according to the mermaid's memory, soon finding the Sea God Palace submerged at the lake's bottom.

The exterior of the palace looked grand but somewhat dilapidated, with quite a bit of moss and seaweed.

Mu Jinyu glanced around a few times before entering the Sea God Palace, casually standing in front of the square, looking up at a sacrificial platform at the top of the stairs, and the statue erected on the altar.

And this statue was indeed a fish's tail, human body, and head, a true mermaid...

"Is this the Sea God? Or perhaps, the ancestor of the Rugens?" Mu Jinyu whispered.

At this time, Mu Jinyu also noticed near the altar, there were some formations present, similar to the ones he discovered when entering the cave.

Chapter 1338: Sea God Spirit Sacrifice! Blue Water Droplets! The Mystical Little Tree Unleashes Its Power!

"Indeed, the formation that previously could block my divine sense is truly extraordinary..."

Mu Jinyu said softly, then stepped across the plaza, slowly ascending to the front of the Sea God Altar.

"Show me your true face, Mount Lu!"

Mu Jinyu's eyes gleamed with a sharp light as he stood with his hands behind his back, his divine sense slowly invading the life-sized Mermaid statue!

"Buzz!"

"Sizzle!"

As Mu Jinyu's divine sense penetrated into the statue, he immediately saw a deep blue light orb flickering with radiance inside!

"Boom!!"

While Mu Jinyu was gazing at this blue light, the light appeared to notice the signs of foreign invasion and exploded abruptly!

The sky filled with dazzling blue light flickered incessantly, Mu Jinyu felt as though he was an ant standing on a leaf, amidst a furious sea, feeling helpless, as if he might be torn apart by the ocean at any moment!

"Squeak!"

At this moment, a peerless beauty of a mermaid appeared in the raging sea; her lower half showcased a magnificent tail, scales gleaming with nine colors, while the skin of her upper body was tender and snowy white like milk. Her beautiful face bore cold and proud purple eyes, with deep blue hair cascading down to her waist and hips, gently floating as she moved.

She wore a crown indicating her extraordinary status and held a trident similar yet distinctly different from the previous mermaid.

"Die!"

The Sea God issued a cold shout, stepping on the waves towards Mu Jinyu, who was weakened, waving the trident that gleamed coldly as it stabbed rapidly toward him!

"Ha!"

At the critical moment, Mu Jinyu's gaze focused, breaking free from the helpless feeling, then raised his hand to confront the incoming sharpness.

"Bang!"

Immediately, Qi Force erupted, the ocean exploded, and pillars of water shot up to the sky!

"Clang!"

"Clang!!"

"Boom!!"

Mu Jinyu remained composed, continuously raising his hand to battle the Mermaid Sea God, finally delivering a powerful blow that sent the trident flying, then advanced swiftly, seizing the thin, swan-like neck with a grip, and with a "crack," twisted it!

"Boom!!"

The vast, perilous raging sea dissipated instantly.

The blue world in front of Mu Jinyu gradually faded, returning to the view of the Sea God Altar.

"Click-click-click..."

As Mu Jinyu withdrew his divine sense and the Sea God Spirit Sacrifice was annihilated, this Sea God statue sculpted from an unknown material started to crack.

Soon, the mermaid sculpture proudly standing with a trident was covered with cracks, seemingly about to explode thoroughly the next second.

Yet in the end, it remained unbroken.

Mu Jinyu noticed that after battling and finally defeating the Sea God Spirit Sacrifice, the Three-Leaf Youlian in his body began to shimmer with a mysterious glow again.

"Drop!"

Quickly, the Three-Leaf Youlian accumulated a deep blue droplet, which then fell into Mu Jinyu's Dantian.

"Hmm, it's not a black droplet?"

Seeing this within himself, Mu Jinyu immediately understood that his previous guess was correct.

The black droplet formed by swallowing the black mist didn't mean the Three-Leaf Youlian can only condense black droplets by consuming other spiritual objects.

The current deep blue droplet was clearly condensed by devouring the Sea God Spirit Sacrifice.

Yet what special function could this deep blue droplet have?

Just as Mu Jinyu was about to test the effects of the deep blue droplet, a booming sound shook him out of his Early Fourth Layer Hedao Realm cultivation, ignited by the droplet falling into his Dantian.

"Buzz!"

The cyan Golden Core floating within his Dantian slightly spun, absorbing the deep blue droplet, and Mu Jinyu's cultivation advanced to the Mid Fourth Layer Hedao Realm!

"I can't believe my cultivation broke through!"

Witnessing this occurrence, Mu Jinyu couldn't help but feel thrilled.

Now he finally understood how the Rugens utilized Yu Shenfeng's essence blood for Sea God worship to reach such heights in their cultivation.

Indeed, the Sea God Altar truly possesses such effects.

However, they performed sacrifices to the Sea God for favor in contrast, while he obliterated the Sea God Spirit Sacrifice, using it as Spiritual Medicine to elevate his cultivation!

"Drop!"

"Drop!"

Then, the Three-Leaf Youlian consecutively let drop several deep blue droplets.

Mu Jinyu counted, absorbing a total of thirteen droplets.

His cultivation thereby progressed from Mid Fourth Layer Hedao Realm, edging towards the Fifth Layer Hedao Realm.

Mu Jinyu felt greatly pleased, unexpectedly making such gains while searching for Yu Shenfeng.

This journey was undoubtedly worthwhile!

"Click-click-click..."

"Buzz..."

Right at this moment, an intense sound of a door opening suddenly echoed.

Immersed in elation, whilst hoping for more deep blue droplets from the Three-Leaf Youlian, Mu Jinyu listened to the noise, lifting his head to look.

He saw the large red lacquer doors at the back of the altar slowly pushing open, as if someone was going to emerge.

"Hmm?"

Mu Jinyu's eyes narrowed, his joyful expression calmed, turning serious.

He pondered, could there be someone inside this palace?

Or perhaps, the most crucial aspect of this Sea God Palace isn't the altar but what's within the palace? Or is the Sea God Altar meant to restrain something from escaping within the palace?

Hence, the Rugens didn't dare to venture inside recklessly, only performed rituals at the altar, and now, after unintentionally damaging the altar, causing the restraint to collapse, something within is finally attempting to escape?

Mu Jinyu speculated but felt no fear.

Though his expression became slightly more cautious.

"Boom!"

Finally, the red lacquer doors opened.

Within, Mu Jinyu saw over a dozen pale blue mermaids like the Sea God Spirit Sacrifice, seemingly ethereal and appearing more like soul bodies...

"Swoosh!"

They moved stiffly and slowly, yet holding identical colored weapons—be it sword, knife, spear, or bow—launching an attack on Mu Jinyu.

"Bang, bang, bang!"

Mu Jinyu formed the Fist Seal, forcefully resisting, but couldn't shatter the incoming arrows, instead feeling a sharp pain in his head.

"These are actually soul-based attacks?!"

Mu Jinyu's expression subtly changed, realizing the situation became tricky.

Until now, he acquired a single magic treasure defending against soul attacks, which was destroyed later, and never found a Cultivation Technique enhancing the soul.

Thus, the soul aspect has been his weakness.

Indeed, with the mystical Little Tree in his Sea of Consciousness, he currently had no worries, yet Mu Jinyu wasn't certain if the mystical Little Tree would remain permanently, so he continuously sought to patch up this weak point.

Unfortunately, had no success.

Currently enduring these mermaids' soul attacks, defense became challenging, had the mystical Little Tree not been present, retreat would be his only option, but with the Little Tree, likely it'd deal with them.

"Buzz!"

Sure enough, as Mu Jinyu felt head pain and slight soul damage, the mystical Little Tree slightly shook its leaves, then scattered sparkling light, nurturing his soul.

Subsequently, the mystical Little Tree seemed to be incensed, extending a branch from Mu Jinyu's Sea of Consciousness, like divine lightning, instantly wiping out the advancing dozen Mermaid Ghosts.

Moreover, it absorbed their divine soul power, converting it to nourishment, consuming some itself, and using another portion to nurture Mu Jinyu's soul.

Chapter 1339: The Stone Box in the Great Hall! One Dragon Ball!

As the mystical little tree exhaled a portion of its soul power to nourish his own soul, Mu Jinyu's soul also grew significantly.

If his original soul power was roughly at the Fourth Layer Hedao Realm, then now, his soul power should be around the Fifth Layer Hedao Realm.

"Cultivation rising, soul strengthening... this trip was indeed worth it!"

A radiant smile blossomed on Mu Jinyu's face.

Then, he noticed the Three-Leaf Youlian in his dantian gently swinging its three lotus leaves, seemingly expressing strong dissatisfaction...

"Could it be that you can also devour this mermaid ghost?" Mu Jinyu felt a great surprise witnessing this scene.

And after a brief reflection, Mu Jinyu also realized that the mystical little tree was inclined towards the soul aspect. However, when he only had the mystical little tree in the past, whenever he needed to absorb True Yuan or in other areas, the mystical little tree would also lend a hand.

So even though the Three-Leaf Youlian is inclined towards the physical body and True Yuan aspects, it can actually handle soul-related sacrificial spirits too?

Is it complaining that the mystical little tree stole its fortune?

Unfortunately, the Three-Leaf Youlian couldn't speak and seemed to have no consciousness. Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, it did not respond.

Of course, if both the mystical little tree and the Three-Leaf Youlian had their own consciousness, Mu Jinyu would probably not dare to let them parasitize his body, as that would be too dangerous.

Soon, the Three-Leaf Youlian swayed its lotus leaves a few more times and then went silent, showing no further movement.

Observing this, Mu Jinyu looked at the mystical little tree and the Three-Leaf Youlian a few more times before retracting his inner gaze and looking up towards the Sea God Hall with its wide open door.

Inside the hall with the open door, there were no mermaids anymore, only a stone table with a stone box on it.

"What is this thing..."

Seeing the stone box, Mu Jinyu thought of the original stone box that held the Three-Leaf Youlian.

The materials of both looked very similar.

"The stone boxes storing the seeds of the Three-Leaf Youlian and the mystical little tree were obtained by Wang Mao in the folded space behind Mount Tai. It's unknown how long they've been there, possibly thousands or even tens of thousands of years, maybe even hundreds of thousands. And yet, there's a similar stone box here in the Sea God Palace? Where did this come from?"

Mu Jinyu pondered, uncertainly saying, "Could it be that this Sea God Palace has been dormant underwater for thousands or even tens of thousands of years?"

"But it doesn't seem like that..."

Mu Jinyu shook his head slightly, feeling a bit unbelievable.

Then, he speculated, "Or perhaps a long time ago, the mermaid sea god in the Sea God Palace ventured into a world similar to what's behind Mount Tai and brought out such a stone box?"

"If that's the case, then it's somewhat plausible..."

Mu Jinyu made various speculations, but speculation is just speculation. The facts remain unclear to anyone, so Mu Jinyu finally didn't bother to guess further.

Afterwards, Mu Jinyu cautiously released his divine sense, wanting to check what was inside the stone box.

But the stone box, indeed similar to the one he obtained from the world behind Mount Tai through Wang Mao, couldn't be penetrated by divine sense; he couldn't even detect its presence when his divine sense swept past it.

"Then let's go take a look."

The divine sense couldn't probe it, and Mu Jinyu couldn't really give up on the contents of this stone box. Eventually, he hesitated for a moment before stepping into the hall and walking towards the stone table.

As he entered the hall, Mu Jinyu was worried about unexpected occurrences or the activation of deeply hidden formations.

But none of that happened, which allowed Mu Jinyu to breathe a sigh of relief.

Soon, Mu Jinyu approached the stone table, then slowly reached out and touched the stone box on the table.

"Click!"

However, as soon as Mu Jinyu's fingertip touched the stone box, even before he decided whether to open it immediately or prepare any precautions for opening it, unexpectedly, the stone box opened on its own.

"Roar!!"

"Buzz!!"

Accompanied by an uplifting dragon roar, a myriad of golden light burst out from the stone box, illuminating the entire hall with a golden glow.

Not only the entire hall, the dazzling golden light also radiated out to the stone steps outside, the plaza, and then flowed into the sea outside the Sea God Palace.

This made the entire emerald lake turn into a golden expanse.

"Hmm? What's happening?"

"It seemed like a dragon roar just now? Has something happened to the Dragon Master?"

Yu Shenfeng, who was mercilessly slaughtering Rugens, noticed the change in the lake and recalled the dragon roar he heard earlier. He pondered if Mu Jinyu had released his Dragon Soul, thinking Mu Jinyu might be in danger underneath. His expression changed slightly, and without further thought, he dove into the water, heading downwards...

Having cultivated the "Black Emperor Water Emperor Technique," Yu Shenfeng moved swiftly through the water, soon arriving in front of the Sea God Palace.

He didn't hesitate, quickly rushing inside, reaching the plaza, then turning to glance around before noticing the Sea God statue atop the steps and the great hall behind it, subsequently rushing up.

Although Yu Shenfeng knew that if Mu Jinyu was in danger he might not be able to help, Mu Jinyu had saved him multiple times. Despite being a cold-blooded assassin, he couldn't leave without a sense of guilt.

Besides, the danger Mu Jinyu faced might not make him helpless. For instance, if Mu Jinyu were to fight someone and both were seriously injured, he could help Mu Jinyu eliminate the severely injured opponent, allowing Mu Jinyu time to recuperate...

In any case, Yu Shenfeng planned to check things out.

When Yu Shenfeng quickly arrived in front of the hall, he took a peek inside, where the gold light was even more dazzling and bright, forcing his eyes almost shut.

With the sound of dragon roars resonating, he couldn't tell what was happening inside.

"Dragon Master?"

Yu Shenfeng called out cautiously while walking inside with closed eyes.

"I'm fine..."

Mu Jinyu replied, with disbelief and joy in his voice, "I'm fine, there's a great fortune for me here, a true blessing in disguise..."

As he spoke, Mu Jinyu realized that the golden light was too dazzling, so he used "True Dragon Mystic Taoism" to control the dissipation of the golden light.

As the golden light gradually dissipated, Yu Shenfeng finally felt he could see clearly.

Then, he strained to open his eyes, vaguely seeing Mu Jinyu standing in front of a stone table, holding a stone box in his left hand and a sparkling golden bead in his right hand.

Bead?

Yu Shenfeng felt his eyes sting less, and his vision became clearer, allowing him to see a little golden dragon swimming continuously inside the golden bead.

"Dragon? Dragon Ball..."

Seeing the little golden divine dragon inside the bead, Yu Shenfeng was momentarily stunned before he noticed that the bead itself wasn't golden. The golden color was entirely due to the little golden divine dragon inside.

Could this be the legendary Dragon Ball?

Hearing Yu Shenfeng's questioning filled with incredulity, Mu Jinyu replied happily, "Yes, it's a Dragon Ball, containing a Dragon Soul!"

He paused and then, with an excited tone, said, "With this Dragon Ball, the Dragon Soul within me will become a true Dragon Soul!"

The Dragon Soul within Mu Jinyu's body, strictly speaking, wasn't a Dragon Soul but rather condensed from the Dragon Vein Qi of the Kunlun Ruins.

Generally speaking, when the next Hidden Dragon Conference begins, the Dragon Soul condensed from Dragon Vein Qi within the Dragon Head Leader would automatically dissipate.

Moreover, if one leaves the Kunlun Ruins, the Dragon Qi should be reclaimed by the Dragon Vein of the Kunlun Ruins.

For some unknown reason, Mu Jinyu could carry the Dragon Soul away from the Kunlun Ruins and manifest it in Huaxia.

Perhaps it was due to the presence of Kunlun Mountain in Huaxia?

Now, with the acquisition of this Dragon Ball, if he could successfully refine it, even if he later leaves Earth, the Dragon Soul within him might not dissipate as a result.

This was why Mu Jinyu felt tremendously elated and thrilled upon obtaining the Dragon Ball...

Chapter 1340: Refining the Dragon Soul! Global Changes! The Blizzard Subsides!

Upon learning that Mu Jinyu was fine, Yu Shenfeng left the Sea God Palace once again to continue hunting down the remaining Rugens.

Mu Jinyu, on the other hand, began to refine the Dragon Ball after Yu Shenfeng left.

"Bang!"

As Mu Jinyu's True Yuan continuously poured into the Dragon Ball, it shattered with a bang like a glass bead being smashed. Subsequently, a sky-shattering dragon roar echoed.

A Golden Dragon, stretching more than ten meters long, appeared in the hall, flying around with an imposing display of claws and teeth.

"Ha!"

Mu Jinyu raised his head and uttered a soft shout. Accompanied by another high and resonant dragon roar, Mu Jinyu's Dragon Soul flew out of his body, intertwining and colliding with the Golden Dragon!

It was as if the Twin Dragons Play with Pearls.

But if one looked closely, one would notice that the two dragons were not playing together; rather, the slightly larger Golden Dragon was continuously entwining and devouring the slightly smaller Golden Dragon.

Soon, the slightly larger but somewhat ethereal Golden Dragon devoured the initially appearing Golden Dragon.

Brilliant Golden Light filled the entire room.

The only Golden Dragon that remained became more lifelike, as if it were a real, living dragon.

Its appearance was very similar to the Divine Silkworm Princess's first transformation, the True Dragon Transformation.

However, there were still slight differences.

"Roar!"

Finally, under the control of Mu Jinyu's True Dragon Mystic Taoism, the vivid Five-Clawed Golden Dragon let out a dragon roar and transformed into a golden lightning bolt, rushing fiercely into Mu Jinyu's body.

"Boom!!"

As the Dragon Soul returned to the body, a cacophony exploded in Mu Jinyu's mind, as if ten thousand dragons were roaring simultaneously.

Afterward, Mu Jinyu was astonished to discover that after refining the deep blue water bead and reaching the Late Fourth Layer Hedao Realm Stage, he had, under the influence of Dragon Qi, broken through the bottleneck in one fell swoop, reaching the Peak Hedao Realm, and then the Initial Fifth Layer Stage...

His cultivation was soaring crazily.

Mu Jinyu couldn't have anticipated the benefits he would gain from refining the Dragon Soul within the Dragon Ball, which filled him with joy.

Through his inner vision, he could clearly see a three-inch-long, petite Five-Clawed Golden Dragon, similar to the Divine Silkworm Princess, spiraling around his Golden Core in his Dantian.

With each circle the little Divine Dragon made around the Golden Core, wisps of Dragon Qi seeped into his Golden Core, causing it to tremble slightly before radiating brilliant Golden Light, beginning to grow...

"I can finally see the Dragon Soul now..."

Mu Jinyu mumbled joyfully to himself.

Before refining this Dragon Ball, although Mu Jinyu could summon his Dragon Soul from within himself every time, he could not discern where it was hiding during inner vision.

But now, having devoured the true Dragon Soul, his originally illusionary Dragon Soul within his body finally manifested, appearing in his Dantian.

Although Mu Jinyu wasn't sure what advantages the manifestation of the Dragon Soul would bring him, he felt it was certainly better than being unable to see his Dragon Soul...

Afterward, Mu Jinyu ceased his wandering thoughts, concentrating on operating his cultivation technique to enhance his cultivation level.

...

As Mu Jinyu obtained the Dragon Ball from the Sea God Palace and refined the Dragon Soul, causing his cultivation to skyrocket, the continuous blizzards that had persisted globally for the past eight days subtly began to weaken.

However, no one knew at this moment.

Moreover, even if the meteorological equipment was not broken, and the weakening trend was detected, it would be difficult to convey this good news globally given the current communication difficulties.

As the blizzards began to weaken, peculiar changes began to occur globally.

Mount Song.

The base of the Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere.

In the depths of the folded space behind it, there stood an ancient stone temple recently discovered by the Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere, after the mountain collapsed.

The stone temple appeared very dilapidated, seemingly on the verge of collapse at any time. Inside the temple, a Buddha stone statue was enshrined, incomplete, with multiple cracks.

Nevertheless, when the high monks of Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere came here to inspect, they could all sense a profound sense of tranquility and enlightenment emanating from deep within their hearts, leading them to never underestimate this ancient stone temple.

At this moment, Sheng Rulai and the high monks of Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere were seated in meditation within this stone temple. Suddenly, the Buddha stone statue, with its numerous cracks, trembled slightly, and then an aura of hazy light radiated forth.

Behind the Buddha stone statue appeared arches of multicolored Buddha Light, as if a true Buddha had descended.

The change in the Buddha stone statue went unnoticed by the monks engrossed in their tranquil cultivation.

But soon, faint chanting voices arose, accompanied by enchanting Zen chants.

"Hmm?"

"What's going on?"

"Who is chanting Zen?"

As the chanting voices emerged, the multitude of high monks and Sheng Rulai, who were immersed in their cultivation, were startled awake from their meditation.

Thereafter, they noticed the changes in the stone Buddha.

Instantly, they grew even more bewildered and uncertain.

"Hmm? Such profound scriptures, is this... a kind of cultivation method?"

Upon regaining consciousness, Sheng Rulai listened attentively to the chanting emanating from the stone Buddha. Initially, he seemed indifferent, but gradually, realizing it was an extremely profound cultivation method, his expression involuntarily shifted.

"Everyone, listen carefully to this chanting; this is an opportunity not to be missed..."

Sheng Rulai advised the monks, then closed his eyes to listen earnestly.

...

In the depths of the folded space of Mount Emei.

"Clang!"

A clear and resonating sword hum emerged as a White Crane atop the mountain peak lifted its head to look, subsequently seeing a Flying Sword shoot forth from the mountain like a lightning bolt, swiftly slicing through the surroundings.

"This is..."

The White Crane King, Mountain Master of Mount Emei, upon seeing this scene, was momentarily taken aback, before its eyes blossomed with brilliant vitality.

"A more profound Sword Control Technique!"

The White Crane King had previously acquired the inheritance of the Flying Swords of Mount Shu from Mount Emei, though it wasn't exceedingly profound. The emergence of this Flying Sword indicated to it that an even more exquisite Flying Sword inheritance had come forth.

"Screech!"

The White Crane King let out a soft cry, then soared into the sky, extending its body, its wings closed, its long and straight beak erect like a Flying Sword, with its entire being radiating Sword Qi as it swiftly flew towards the rampaging Flying Sword!

...

Dragon Tiger Mountain.

The base of the Way of Nature.

The new Taoist Master within had similarly received a Taoist Law inheritance amid this terrestrial upheaval, significantly advancing in cultivation.

...

Vatican.

The base of the Brilliant Divine Authority.

This Holy City, too, at that moment, witnessed divine light descending from the sky, with numerous angelic phantoms materializing and various miracles frequently appearing...

...

On this day, changes occurred globally, revealing their ancient cultivation heritages.

Amidst this Ice Age, the barely surviving humans experienced a surge in strength due to these mysterious shifts, some showcasing various special abilities.

The world underwent intense transformations, with one day comparable to an entire year in the past.

And one day later, on the ninth day of the Ice Age, the unprecedented blizzards finally ceased.